



2004 Annual Report of the Barrington Website Committee

Prepared January 25, 2005

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The site is comprised of a home page, which acts as a directory for navigating around the site for specific information under the 12 listed categories, with sub-categories under each;

1. Around the Town

- Town Calendar
- Barrington Youth
- Barrington Bulletin Board
- Town Jobs
- FAQs
- Barrington Community School
- Houses of Worship
- Moving to Barrington?
- History
- Profile of Barrington
- In The News
- Environmental Issues

2. Town Government

- Town Government - Annual Report info
- Town Documents
- Councils & Committees
- Town Services
- Barrington Prevention Coalition
- Town Library
- Senior Activities
- Voting Info

3. Town Services

4. Education

- Links to Barrington Public Schools Website
- Public and Private school information
- Links to Barrington Community School
- Links to East Bay Educational Collaborative

5. Businesses

- Businesses of Barrington Directory

6. Organizations

- Local Organization Directory

7. Sports

- Local sports info and links

8. Recreation

- Links to Public Parks and Beaches
- Public Boat Launching Areas
- Public Marine Facilities
- Fishing, Golf, and Tennis

The Barrington Website Committee, comprised of Joe Shansky, John Woods, Steve Story and Town Council Liaison Martha Scavongelli feels 2004 was a year of great activity and growth. There were ten scheduled meetings where the needs of the website were addressed. The State has mandated Agenda's of meetings be on the State's website in order to comply with the "Open Meetings" law. Luckily our committee chairs were used to uploading both minutes and agenda to our website on a monthly or as needed basis. Minutes from the Town Council and other Committees, Commissions and Councils are updated monthly as well as the monthly calendar information, volunteer and paying jobs. The Town's Annual Report was added this year, substituting older information.

2004 saw the addition of two new sections to the "Around the Town" category: "Barrington Virtual Art Gallery" and the "Seasons of Barrington."

The Barrington Virtual Art Gallery accepts photos and artwork from local artists and photographers submitting Barrington scenes. These images grace the home page of our website with links to separate Virtual Art Gallery pages showing additional art from each artist.

The "Seasons of Barrington" is a photographic essay by Website member, Steve Story, with commentary showing Barrington at different times of the year.

The Substance Abuse Task Force was very active this year, publishing its "Safe Home" Program, as well as many other helpful programs, tips and guides for parents and teens to resist drug and alcohol abuse in our families, culminating in a very exciting and well attended event on the Town Beach.

The Barrington Affordable Housing Plan was displayed with many other new town documents.

The Police Department posted a Limited Winter Parking Notice as well as alerts from other police departments dealing with Credit Card Fraud and OPERATION BLUE RIPTIDE. From mid November through the January Holiday Period (six weeks) and for the July 4th, 2005 Holiday season the Barrington Police Department will be supplementing normal patrol activity with additional Officers whose primary responsibility will be the detection and apprehension of drivers operating under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.

As the Town seeks to make serving our residents easier, many of the town's forms for licenses and applications have been put online, saving a trip to Town Hall. The Town's website was upgraded and changed its format in 2004. As new technology becomes available and the site grows to include many more sections, ease of navigation within the site becomes critical. To that end, the new "look and feel" of the site added flexibility of navigation within each section, containing a directory of that section as well as ease to change sections from any page on the site. Eventually, we will be adding search engine capability to the site, making the site easier and faster for viewers to find that for which they are searching. Database management technology will also make updating the website faster and easier.

The Town of Barrington wishes to thank In-Tap LLC for continuing to supply excellent technical service for our website's servers and our growing needs. They have been of enormous benefit to the Town. We would also like to thank our liaison from the Town Council, Martha Scavongelli, for taking a strong interest in the Town's website and enabling it to achieve the growth and success that benefits us all.